

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A diamond blade formed by providing slots ~~[[+7+]]~~ on the outer peripheral edge of a circular core ~~[[+2+]]~~ and fixing a superabrasive layer ~~[[+3, 4+]]~~ to a portion of the outer peripheral surface of said core located between said ~~[[slots +7+]]~~ slots, wherein

said superabrasive layer ~~[[+3, 4+]]~~ includes a first superabrasive layer ~~[[+3+]]~~ having an extension ~~[[+3a+]]~~ formed by partially extending said superabrasive layer toward the inner periphery of the core ~~[[+2+]]~~ and a second superabrasive ~~[[layer +4+]]~~ layer, a reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ extending from the outer periphery toward the inner periphery of said core is formed on the inner peripheral side of said second superabrasive layer ~~[[+4+]]~~ while said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ is located closer to the outer periphery than a radial central portion ~~[[+0+]]~~ of the core and an outer peripheral end ~~[[+5a+]]~~ of said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ is located closer to the outer periphery than an inner peripheral end ~~[[+3b+]]~~ of the extension ~~[[+3a+]]~~ of said first superabrasive layer.

2. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein a stressing layer is circumferentially continuously or intermittently formed on the radial central portion of said ~~[[core +2+]]~~ core.

3. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein said second superabrasive layer ~~[[+4+]]~~ is provided with an extension ~~[[+4a+]]~~ having a relatively short radial length with respect to the extension ~~[[+3a+]]~~ of said first superabrasive layer.

4. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 3, wherein the extension ~~[[+4a+]]~~ of said second superabrasive layer is formed to a side closer to the inner periphery than a line connecting innermost portions of adjacent slots ~~[[+7+]]~~ with each other.

5. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein said first superabrasive ~~[[layer-(3)+]]~~ layer, said second superabrasive layer ~~[[+4+]]~~ and the reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ and said core ~~[[+2+]]~~ are bonded to each other by simultaneous sintering.

6. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 5, wherein a bond for said reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[+5+]]~~ consists of a bond reaching the maximum density at a lower temperature than bonds for said first superabrasive layer ~~[[+3+]]~~ and the second superabrasive ~~[[layer-(4)+]]~~ layer.

7. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1, wherein through holes ~~[[+9+]]~~ or through grooves ~~[[+8+]]~~ are provided on portions of said core ~~[[+2+]]~~ provided with said first superabrasive ~~[[layer-(3)+]]~~ layer, the second

5 superabrasive layer ~~[[4]]~~ and the reinforcing
6 superabrasive ~~[[layer (5)]]~~ layer.

1 8. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1,
2 wherein said second superabrasive layer ~~[[4]]~~ and said
3 reinforcing superabrasive layer ~~[[5]]~~ are discontinuously
4 formed in the radial direction.

1 9. (currently amended) The diamond blade according to claim 1,
2 wherein said first superabrasive ~~[[layer (3)]]~~ layer, said
3 second superabrasive layer ~~[[4]]~~ and the reinforcing
4 superabrasive layer ~~[[5]]~~ are formed with ~~[[grooves~~
5 ~~(6)]]~~ grooves.

[AMENDMENT CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]